MR. CHAIRMAN : The word "Sovereign" attaches to India and not to Punjab.

SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH : It is a part of sovereign India. Do not misquote me, Mr. Bhandare.

Furthermore, what does that statement say about Uttar Pradesh, about Himachal Pradesh, about Jammu and Kashmir? what does that statement say? I would like to know from the hon. Minister. He has glossed over that and he has talked about a portion that deals with Punjab. I want to know about the rest of it.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : It applies to the rest of it. All the depictions of Himachal, Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab are incorrect. That will be corrected. That is the assurance.

SHRI VISHVJIT PRITHVIJIT SINGH : Read out the other part.

Mr. CHAIRMAN : Question No. 406.

Pak President's statement on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons in South Asia

*406. SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL† :

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement made by President Zia of Pakistan before journalists in Islamabad to the effect that Pakistan was prepared to sign an agreement with India on non-proliferation of nuclear weapons in South Asia; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO) : (a) Government have seen press reports about President Zia-ul-Haq's remarks to newsmen in Islamabad on November 19, 1986 that Pakistan would be willing to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty provided India also agreed to do so.

(b) Government of India's opposition to the NPT is a principled one and does not depend on whether Pakistan signs it or not. It is for the Government of Pakistan to decide to accede to the Treaty in case it has no problem with its provisions. We do not consider the NPT, which is a multilateral Treaty, to be a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan.

SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL : Mr. Chairman, Sir, we have had a bitter experience in two aggressions by Pakistan against India.

AN HON. MEMBER : Three.

SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL : Pakistan is indulging in hostile activities by opening training schools for Sikh Territorists. There is a promise from the United States to give the AWACS and nuclear arms to Pakistan.

Pakistan is putting well-trained Muslim and Sikh guerilla brigade, commandoes, into the State of Punjab at the service of Khalistan insurgents. To me, Sir, this in an undeclared war by Pakistan against India. In the light of such grave circumstances, I want to know how far this statement before journalists is trustworthy and whether the Government of India can rely on the intention of Pakistan in view of the latter allowing the US to use its territory as a military base and also its complicity in aiding the terrorists in Punjab.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : There are reasons really, Sir, to doubt the sincerity of the statement mentioned in this question, Sir, in view of the acts which are contrary to our security, indulged by, or with the help of, the Pakistan Administration and increased militarisation of their country much beyond their legitimate requirements, there the position that we take is that the credibility of the Pakistani Administration is measured and gauged in the context of its deeds and acts, their credibility is quite low.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Second supplementary, Mr. Patil.

SHRI DINKARRAO GOVINDRAO PATIL : No, Sir.

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a hypocricy of the highest order...

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Dinkarrao Govindrao Patil.

AN HON. MEMBER : Whose ?

SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE : ... on the part of President Gen. Zia... (*Interruptions*) ... to go as far as Pakistan has gone, on which we have debated ten days earlier, in the matter of explosion of nuclear devices, manufacturing enriched uranium of 93.5 per cent which is of weapons grade and triggering device. You must remember that unlike the principled stand which India has taken, Pakistan never had any qualms in supporting proliferation of nuclear warheads at the global level.

Sir, there are three aspects. He has satisfactorily explained the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty, but Pakistan will still try to mislead the world by talking about nuclear weapons free zone and the mutual inspection. May I ask the hon. Minister as to what is the stand of India on these two pseudo and false claims of Pakistan ?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Sir, it is not only that these claims mentioned by the hon. Member do not carry credibility with us, they do not carry credibility with the rest of the world. As has been pointed out by the hon. Member, the Pakistani administration and different agencies have been accumulating materials which can be used for making only the nuclear weapons and not for their power station like enriched uranium. Pakistan gets the dubious distinction of being the only country in the world against which Symington amendment was invoked which as the House is aware, prevented U.S. Administration from giving aid to any country which procured material technology which can be put to use for making nuclear weapons. In the context of the manner in which the Pakistani nuclear installations are maintained secretively as compared to the openess with which we deal our nuclear installations regarding which our Atomic Energy Commission submits a report to this hon. House, to this Parliament, which are open to the people of this country which are open to the world. In the context of the circumstances, therefore, the genuineness and the sincerity of these claims are very much to be doubted.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has just referred to the aspects of international credibility. I would like to clarify this particular aspect because in Nov. this year, a U.N. General Assembly Committee approved a Pakistani resolution on the question of nuclear free zone in South Asia, which despite our very strong resistance to that resolution was carried by this Committee with 90 countries voting in its support, 37 abstaining and India had Bhutan and Mauritius supporting it. Now, Sir, this creates not just doubts about our diplomatic effectiveness and putting across what is our reasonable viewpoint but it also tends to isolate us internationally. It is not in harmony with the conception of the signatories to the New Delhi declaration of 1983 or of espousing Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. Therefore, I would like to ask two specific questions. Number one, where do we stand on the aspiration of nuclear weapons free South Asia and number two, why do we take a stand at United Nations which is at variance with our other positions ?

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Mr. Chairman, Sir, regarding the South Asia as a zone of de-nuclearisation, our position is that we would very much like to have not only South Asia as a zone of de-nuclearisation but the entire world's denuclearisation. The important aspect which comes to our mind is that in the present context where the great powers have got stockpiles which can destroy the entire globe; in the present context where scientifically, it is proved and demonstrated that any nuclear conflict will have effect all over the world and the concept of nuclear winter has been advanced; in the context of the fact that the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean are witnessing intense nuclear power weapons activities and in the context of the fact that concepts like South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone, on the same lines as that now proposed for South Asia, do not prevent denuclearisation; in the context of all these facts, we see this proposal as a propaganda gimmick which cannot genuinely bring about a denuclearised atmosphere in this area. We would continue working for denuclearisation. We ourselves have refrained from using our nuclear capabilities for any purpose other than peaceful and this is some thing which shows the genuineness an *bona fide* of our intentions.

SHRI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to ask the

Minister whether there has been any official approach to President Zia about the credibility or confirmation of the statement by him.

SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Sir, these matters are under constant discussion and whenever our officials and our Ministers and at the highest level, our leaders meet these matters are discussed as very important matters.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Constitution of Boards of Directors of Banks

*402. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to nominate employees' nominees on the Boards of Directors of nationalised banks and other public financial institutions; and

(b) what are the criteria adopted for the selection of Directors and whether women candidates are given any opportunity in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) Employee Directors are being appointed on the Boards of Directors of Public Sector Banks and Industrial Development Bank of India in accordance with the provisions in the relevant statutes.

(b) As in the case of Employee Directors, appointment of other Directors on the Boards of Public Sector Banks, Financial Institutions are made in accordance with the provisions of the statutes governing them. Broadly, non-official Directors are selected to represent specific interests and in view of their knowledge and experience which are considered beneficial for the institution concerned. It has been Government's endeavour to give representation to women on the Boards of Directors of banks and financial institutions by selecting women with the required knowledge and experience.

Rewards to Central Excise and Customs Officials

*407. SHRI K. GOPALAN :
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of Central Excise and Customs officials who were given rewards in terms of money during the last three years, year-wise and zone-wise and also the amount paid to them;

(b) what is the value of goods and the extent of evasion of various duties detected in each zone by the Central excise and customs officials during the above period; and

(c) whether there has been an increase in smuggling activities after the introduction of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI) : (a) The number of Central Excise and Customs Officials who were given cash rewards during the last 3 years and also the total amount paid to them are as under :

Year	No. of Officers	Amount paid as reward (Rs. in lakhs)
1983-84	7161	77·3
1984-85	8162	59·0
1985-86	3699	388.8

(Figures are provisional)

Rewards paid to officials zone-wise are not maintained.

(b) The details of the seizures made under the Customs Act, Central Excises and Salt Act and Duty Evasion detected during the last 3 years are furnished below :

Year	Customs (Rs. in crores)
1984	101·09
1985	195.63
1986 (Upto Sept.)	163·76